FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

P. James Nicholson, Treasurer Maine Republican Party 76 Silver Street Waterville, ME 04901 SEP 4 1996

Identification Number: C00003111

Reference: 12 Day Pre-Primary Report (4/1/96-5/22/96)

Dear Mr. Nicholson:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. The review raised questions concerning certain information contained in the report(s). An itemization follows:

-Schedule B of your report (pertinent portion(s) attached) discloses a contribution(s) which appears to exceed the limits set forth in the Act. 2 U.S.C. §441a(a) precludes a multicandidate committee from making a contribution to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$5,000 per election.

If the contribution(s) in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information. If you have made an excessive contribution, you should notify the recipient and request a refund of the amount in excess of \$5,000 and/or notify the recipient in writing of your redesignation of the contribution. In the best interest of your committee, all refunds and redesignations should be made within sixty days of the treasurer's receipt of the contribution(s).

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of the refund request sent to the contributor. In addition, any refunds should be disclosed on Schedule A supporting Line 16 of the report covering the period during which they are received. Any redesignations should be disclosed as memo entries on Schedule B supporting Line 23 of the report covering the period during which the redesignation is made. 11 CFR \$110.1(b)

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the excessive contribution(s), your prompt action in obtaining a refund and/or redesignating the contribution(s) will be taken into consideration.

calculations for YEAR-TO-DATE EVENT -Your Administrative/Voter Drive are incorrect. EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE totals for administrative and voter drive costs are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year for the whole Administrative/Voter Drive category. EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE totals for fundraising, direct candidate support, and exempt activities are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year within a specific event. These should be calculated by adding the latest disbursement for a category or event to the previous EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE total for that category or event. running EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE total should This disclosed after each disbursement is listed. report by providing the your Administrative/Voter Drive EVENT YEAR-TO-DATE totals.

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-Schedule H4 discloses a disbursement(s) which is categorized as a fundraising expense(s); however, a Schedule H2 has not been filed to disclose the allocation ratio. All committees are required to allocate the direct costs of each fundraising event in which the committee collects both federal and nonfederal funds. The costs are allocated according to the funds received ratio and reported on Schedule H2. 11 CFR \$\$106.5(f) and 105.6(d). Please file a Schedule H2 to disclose the ratio for the fundraising event(s).

A written response or an amendment to your original report(s) correcting the above problem(s) should be filed with the Federal Election Commission within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact me on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530. My local number is (202) 219-3580.

Sincerely,

Andrew J. Dodson

Senior Reports Analyst Reports Analysis Division

INCHEDULE B

* ITEMIZED DISBURGEMENTS

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Arty information copied from such Reports and Statements may not be sold or used by any person for the purpose of soliciting contributions or for commercial purposes, other than using the name and address of any political committee to solicit contributions from each committee.

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